

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4. Canceled

~~{e5}~~ 5. (Currently Amended) ~~The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 1~~ An isolated nucleic acid having at least 99% nucleic acid sequence identity to:

~~(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6);~~

~~(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~(c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6);~~

~~(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~(e) the nucleic acid sequence of shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:5); wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide which stimulates TNF- α release from human blood.~~

~~(f) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:5); or~~

~~(g) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209399.~~

~~{e6}~~ 6. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising:

~~(a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6);~~

~~(b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~(c) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6);~~

~~(d) a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), lacking its associated signal peptide;~~

~~(e) the nucleic acid sequence of shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:5);~~

~~(f) the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:5); or~~

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(g) the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209399;

wherein said extracellular domain is amino acids 17-234 of SEQ ID NO:6.

~~{e7}~~ 7. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6).

~~{e8}~~ 8. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), lacking its associated signal peptide.

~~{e9}~~ 9. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), wherein said extracellular domain is amino acids 17-234 of SEQ ID NO:6.

~~{e10}~~ 10. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of shown in Figure 6 (SEQ ID NO:6), lacking its associated signal peptide, wherein said extracellular domain is amino acids 17-234 of SEQ ID NO:6.

~~{e11}~~ 11. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising the nucleic acid sequence of shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:5).

~~{e12}~~ 12. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the nucleic acid sequence of shown in Figure 5 (SEQ ID NO:5).

~~{e13}~~ 13. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid of Claim 6 comprising the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 209399.

Claims 14-16. Canceled

~~{e17}~~ 17. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim ~~4~~ 6.

~~{e18}~~ 18. (Currently Amended) The vector of Claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid is operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

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~~{e19}~~19. (Currently Amended) ~~A—~~An isolated host cell comprising the
vector of Claim 17.

~~{e20}~~20. (Currently Amended) The host cell of Claim 19, wherein said cell
is a CHO cell, an E. coli or a yeast cell.

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DELETION OF INVENTORS

Please correct the inventorship under 37 CFR §1.48(b) by removing the following inventors from the present application:

~ Dan L. Eaton, Ellen Filvaroff, Mary E. Gerritsen, Christopher J. Grimaldi and
Colin K. Watanabe.